

Maine Department of Education



Celebrations

Welcome by Yvonne Davis

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Welcome to the first edition of the Career and Technical Education Celebrations newsletter. It will showcase the students, teachers, programs and events that are so much a part of career and technical education (CTE) in Maine.

CTE in Maine is experiencing record enrollments at the same time that the general high school population is decreasing. 91.9% of

CTE students graduated from high school in the 2002-2003 school year while the overall high school graduation rate was 86.7%.

Over half of CTE graduates go on to postsecondary education. As you might imagine based on these statistics, we have a number of great stories to tell.

We hope you will enjoy the

articles in this issue and that you will share your stories with us so we can include them in future issues.

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Hall of Flags Ceremony by Gail Mazzaro

COME ONE, COME ALL!!

On Wednesday, February 11, 2004, Career and Technical Education will host its first Hall of Flags Ceremony.

The 27 Maine technical regions and centers will each showcase a program featured at their school. This will also allow Legislators to get a closer look at the fine work being done by students and teachers at these sites.

Displays will be ready for

public review by 10:00 am and at 11:30 am the formal program will begin with Commissioner Susan A. Gendron and Governor John Elias Baldacci as keynote speakers.

Sanford Regional Technical Center will be videotaping the program and taking pictures.

Lewiston, Bath and Hancock Regional Technical Centers will provide refreshments made by their

Culinary Arts Programs. Coastal Washington County Institute of Technology will prepare samples of fish raised in their aquaculture program.

Portland Arts and Technology High School will provide entertainment and other schools will showcase Early Childhood, Fire Fighting, Boat Building, and Biotechnology programs, to name a few.

There will be a program to pique everyone's interest.

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Mid-Coast Students Now Teachers

Lance Philbrook is right back where he started. In 1985 Lance graduated from the automotive course at Mid-Coast School of Technology in Rockland.

Lance went right to work after graduation and was employed at several local garages before starting his own auto repair business three years ago. Along the way, he continued to accumulate certifications, often paid for by his employers.

Lance had maintained his connection with Mid-Coast and was occasionally called upon to solve an automotive shop problem. When Adrian Hooydonk, who had been Lance's instructor, was recalled to active duty in the spring of 2003, Lance was offered the position as a substitute.

"I found it very rewarding when I could see that I was actually teaching a student something they could use."

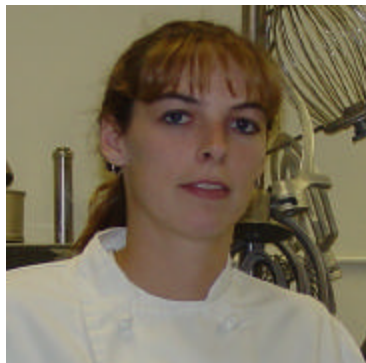
Lance enjoyed his three months as a substitute; the friendly reception from the students and other teachers was reassuring. "I found it very rewarding when I could see that I was actually teaching a student something they could use."

When Adrian decided to retire, Lance applied for and was chosen to fill the full-time position.



He is currently working toward his teacher certification as he has found that he truly enjoys the challenges and rewards in the classroom.

"There are those who think this (technical education) is an easy way to get a passing grade and a great way to get out of 'school' for half a day. If that's what you are looking for, you're in the wrong place. Technical education is hard work."



Stacy Nash is another example of a student coming full circle.

Stacy graduated from the Culinary Arts program at Mid-Coast in 1995 and immediately took a

position at the Samoset.

When she was offered the opportunity to work at Mid-Coast as an Ed Tech III in the Hospitality Program, she jumped at the chance. For the past eight years Stacy has spent the school year at Mid-Coast and the summer as Assistant Baker at the Megunticook Country Club. She has often hired other Mid-Coast culinary graduates to work with her.

Her advice to others is "Get the most out of your free education. Not many things in life are free."

Stacy has taken a number of courses to expand her culinary skills and is currently working toward a teaching certificate (BA).

Special note: Stacy has left Mid-Coast to further her education. She will continue to work there as a substitute teacher when needed.

"Get the most out of your free education."



Computer repair lab at Mid-Coast School of Technology

ACTE Conference Report by John Stivers

John Stivers and Buzz Gamble, members of the CTE Team at the Maine DOE, attended the December Association for Career & Technical Education conference in Orlando.

Academic Integration

Stivers had hoped to find examples of programs that integrated state academic standards with the technical curriculum, but found none that approach the alignment criteria that Maine policies require given our regional center structure.

Workshop presenters talked of accounting for academics in technical programs through identifying relationships between academic standards and technical skills: i.e. “cross walking.” Still, there were excellent examples of programs that did account for naturally occurring academics in the programs.

Stivers was struck by the constant

mention of academics during the conference in contrast to the simultaneous lack of any *common* definition or understanding of the issue among those present.

Perkins Funding and Reauthorization

On the legislative front, conferees discussed Perkins reauthorization efforts at length. Susan Sclafani, Assistant Secretary, and Hans Meeder, Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Vocational and Adult Education (OVAE) in Washington, DC, discussed the Bush Administration’s goals for reauthorization.

Sclafani and Meeder assured the audience that “Washington has heard your concerns” related to initial administration plans to block-fund Perkins or fold Perkins into No Child Left Behind. Stating that “these ideas are now low on our priority list,” Meeder did suggest that many of the initial plan’s concepts were still key, including

enhancement of academics in the technical curriculum and improving partnerships between secondary and post-secondary education. At this time, it is unclear if Perkins IV will require more of a competitive grant process than the current formula approach.

Regarding Tech Prep, Meeder said OVAE was considering a change in its status as a categorical set-aside. Meeder said Washington would like to see Tech Prep as an integral aspect of all Perkins activities, but stated that the department was not yet ready to commit to any policy change recommendations.

The current 2004 Federal Budget will provide a \$2,807,000 increase in Perkins Basic State Grant funding, and a reduction of \$633,000 for Tech Prep.

For more information, visit www.acteonline.org.

HOEA Anatomy Project by Roanne Seeley

The fourth year of the anatomy project sponsored by the Maine Health Occupations Educators Association and the University of New England will continue in 2004. Dr. Neal Cross, Director of the Human Anatomy Laboratory at UNE, will present lessons on anatomy and physiology with the assistance of MaryAnn Disotto, a retired Health Occupations instructor from Dexter.

As in the past, Dr. Cross will present an anatomy lesson broadcast via the

ATM sites to the Maine technical centers and regions. On February 3, 2004 he will present the circulatory-respiratory system. Later in



Dr. Neal Cross

the spring, Dr. Cross will present the genito-urinary system with fetal development.

Instructors are required to provide materials and pre-tests to the students. Many perform dissections in their labs prior to the system being presented so that students are familiar with the techniques.

If your school is not part of this unique program, please contact Roanne Seeley at CTE at 624-6742.

Student Organizations

HOSA



On October 17, 2003, 110 students and chapter advisors from 13 chapters statewide met at the Four Points Sheraton in Bangor for the Health Occupations Students of America Fall Conference. Bill Primmerman, State Coordinator for School Health Programs with the Department of Education, was the keynote speaker.

A high point of the conference was the election of officers. The 2003/04 HOSA Executive Board includes: Kaitlyn Bossie, Caribou, President; Brandy Disley, Dexter, Vice President; Sara Spaulding, Westbrook, Secretary; Elizabeth Bowden, Westbrook, Treasurer; Mary Kanakis, Westbrook, Parliamentarian; Aimee Lasco, Dexter, Historian; Julie Emery, Millinocket, Reporter; Kristin O'Connell, Millinocket, Pointkeeper; Ashley Williams, Dexter, Social and Recreation Chair.

The day ended with students observing competitive event demonstrations provided by their advisors. Congratulations to Diane Wilson and her students from Kenneth Foster Applied Technology for becoming a HOSA chapter.

Submitted by Gail Mazzaro

FFA



Due in part to a \$5,000 grant from the New England Farm Credit Agricultural Enhancement Program, the Maine FFA Association (formerly "Future Farmers of America") conducted a Northern New England

Leadership Training session on October 6-7, 2003. Eleven State Officers from Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont participated in the program that was conducted in South Portland by past National FFA Officers Corey Fleurnoy and Andrew McCrea.

This program provided training for FFA State Officers to enable them to present leadership workshops to local FFA Chapter Officers and to students from their state's membership.

On November 19 and 20, Maine FFA State Officers delivered Chapter Officer training for 50 students in South Portland and Presque Isle. These trainings featured skill building in areas of professionalism, teamwork, motivation and innovation. Chapter Officers enjoyed their time together while learning these skills, learning more about FFA, and gathering ideas to take back to their local chapters.

On January 28-29, 2004, State Officers will present the final leadership workshops at locations in Portland and Presque Isle. These fun, fast-paced workshops will teach skills in time management, goal setting and job hunting and are expected to attract between 80 and 150 participants. Contact your local FFA chapter for details.

Submitted by Doug Robertson



DECA is an association of marketing students that focuses on marketing expertise, workplace skills and professional presentation. Community service and student leadership skills are also integral components.

Members have an opportunity to meet students from all over the state and to compete for awards and scholarships. They learn what it means to be part of a team.

Maine DECA State Conference

Maine DECA students will be "strutting their stuff" at the state conference to be held at the Portland Marriott on February 26 and 27. All eligible DECA students will be able to compete for awards and scholarships in many exciting competitions. Students are currently practicing their role-play skills, studying their marketing curriculum and raising the funds for this great opportunity. The new student leadership team will be chosen at the conference.

Please contact your local chapter for more information and support your DECA students as they "Tune into Success".

Leadership Opportunities for Co-op Students

We would like to invite the Co-op students to join DECA and experience the many leadership opportunities it provides. Currently some of the vocational schools have DECA chapters that students could join; in cases where there is no established chapter, one could be formed. We would like to know if your organization has any interest in having the state officers and their advisor give a presentation and answer any questions you might have. If this is an opportunity you would like to explore please contact Margaret Harvey, State DECA liaison at 624-6739 and she will coordinate the meeting.

Submitted by Meg Harvey



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We're the Career and Technical Education Team of the Maine Department of Education. We provide services to the 27 centers and regions in the State of Maine which offer Career and Technical (formerly known as vocational) education.

It is our hope that this newsletter will be a useful vehicle for keeping people informed about what is taking place within the Department and around the State concerning CTE.

Please contact Editor, Elaine Briggs, with your events or items of interest.

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Web Sites Worth a Look

<http://www.schoolswork.org>

Need an email address or phone number for someone on the CTE team? You'll find that information here as well as contact information for the CTE schools and regions in Maine as well as links to forms and Perkins documents and "much, much more".

<http://www.crcom.org>

Looking to improve programs without major increases in costs? Check out what the Curriculum Resource Center of Maine has to offer. It is a lending library of curriculum guides, course development resources, instructional videos and other high quality teaching materi-

als with a focus toward technical and career education.

<http://www.foodreference.com>

Did you know that Red M&M's were not produced from 1976 to 1985? This and other interesting pieces of trivia can be found here, along with great articles and hundreds of links to other culinary sites.

<http://www.asashop.org>

Automotive Service Association home page. Informative articles, employment classifieds, links to other automotive sites.

<http://www.howstuffworks.com>

This site has something for students,

parents and teachers. Articles are available in printable format and free email newsletters are available.

Have a favorite site? Send it to elaine.briggs@Maine.org for inclusion in the next newsletter.

